

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims in the above-identified patent application as follows wherein deleted material is marked with a ~~strike through~~ and new material is underlined to show the changes made:

1                    1. (**Currently amended**)    A computer implemented method of  
2 performing electronic commerce, said computer implemented method comprising:  
3                    listing a set of available products to a set of consumers;  
4                    accepting a request for a specific product from a particular consumer;  
5                    accepting a reserve price for said specific product from said particular consumer,  
6                    said reserve price comprising a price acceptable to said particular consumer;  
7                    distributing said request for said specific product and said reserve price to a set of  
8                    sellers;  
9                    accepting, ~~for a predetermined time period,~~ at most one offer from each said seller  
10                    in said set of sellers, each said offer comprising an offer price specifying a  
11                    price at which an associated seller ~~sell~~ will sell said specific product, said  
12                    accepting occurring for a predetermined time period or until an offer having an  
13                    offer price less than or equal to said reserve price is received; and  
14                    consummating a transaction with said offer having ~~if at least one of said offers~~  
15                    ~~contains~~ an offer price less than or equal to said reserve price if said offer is  
16                    received.

1                    2. (Currently amended)    The computer implemented method as  
2    claimed in claim 1 wherein listing a set of available products comprising operating a  
3    World Wide Web site with a catalog of products.

1                    3. (Currently amended)    The computer implemented method as  
2    claimed in claim 2 wherein said catalog of products is searchable.


1                    4. (Currently amended)    The computer implemented method as  
2    claimed in claim 2 wherein said World Wide Web site comprises a hierarchical directory  
3    of products.

1                    5. (Currently amended)    The computer implemented method as  
2    claimed in claim 1 wherein accepting a request for a specific product from a particular  
3    consumer comprises receiving an HTML form.

1                    6. (Currently amended)    The computer implemented method as  
2    claimed in claim 1 wherein distributing said request for said specific product to a set of  
3    sellers comprises creating a web page that specifies said request for said specific product  
4    and said reserve price.

1                    7. (**Currently amended**)     The computer implemented method as  
2     claimed in claim 1 wherein distributing said request for said specific product to a set of  
3     sellers comprises sending an email to at least one seller that specifies said request for said  
4     specific product and said reserve price.

1                    8. (**Currently amended**)     The computer implemented method as  
2     claimed in claim 1 wherein accepting offer prices from sellers comprises receiving an  
3     email that specifies an offer price for said specific product.



1                    9. (**Currently amended**)     The computer implemented method as  
2     claimed in claim 1 wherein accepting offer prices from sellers comprises receiving an  
3     HTML form page that specifies an offer price for said specific product.

1                    10. (**Currently amended**)     The computer implemented method as  
2     claimed in claim 1, said computer implemented method further comprising:  
3             displaying a subset list of offers from said sellers to said particular consumer if  
4             none of said ~~no~~ offers from said sellers are below said reserve price.

1                    11. **(Currently amended)**    The computer implemented method as  
2       claimed in claim 10 wherein displaying a list of best offers comprises sending an email  
3       message specifying said a list of offers to said particular consumer.

1                    12. **(Currently amended)**    The computer implemented method as  
2       claimed in claim 10 wherein displaying a list of best offers comprises generating a web  
3       page specifying said a list of offers.

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1                    13. **(Currently amended)**    The computer implemented method as  
2       claimed in claim 10, said computer implemented method further comprising:  
3               receiving a designation of one of said offer prices from said particular consumer;  
4               and  
5               consummating a transaction between said particular consumer and a seller that  
6               offered said designated offer price.

1                    14. **(Currently amended)**    The computer implemented method as  
2       claimed in claim 13 wherein identification information associated with said particular  
3       consumer is provided to said seller that offered said designated offer price only after said  
4       particular consumer has designated said seller.

1                   15. (Currently amended)   The computer implemented method as  
2   claimed in claim 13 wherein identification information associated with said seller that  
3   offered said designated offer price is provided to said particular consumer only after said  
4   particular consumer has designated said seller.

1                   16. (Currently amended)   The computer implemented method as  
2   claimed in claim 1, said computer implemented method further comprising:  
3                   accepting a transaction fee after consummating said transaction.

1                   17. (Currently amended)   The computer implemented method as  
2   claimed in claim 1, said computer implemented method further comprising:  
3                   accepting a consumer registration, said consumer registration comprising  
4                   information from a consumer required to consummate a transaction between  
5                   said consumer and a seller.

1                   18. (Currently amended)   The computer implemented method as  
2   claimed in claim 1 wherein consummating a transaction if at least one of said offers  
3   contains an offer price less than or equal to said reserve price comprising consummating  
4   an offer containing said offer price which is the least among the said accepted offers from  
5   each said seller the lowest offer price.

1 19. (Currently amended) The computer implemented method as  
2 claimed in claim 1 48 wherein consummating a transaction if at least one of said offers  
3 contains an offer price less than or equal to said reserve price comprising consummating  
4 an offer received earlier in time if there are two equal lowest offers.

1 20. (Currently amended) A computer implemented method of  
2 performing electronic commerce, said computer implemented method comprising:  
3 listing a set of available products to a set of consumers;  
4 accepting a request for a specific product from a particular consumer;  
5 accepting a reserve price for said specific product from said particular consumer,  
6 said reserve price comprising a price acceptable to said particular consumer;  
7 distributing said request for said specific product and said reserve price to a set of  
8 sellers;  
9 accepting one offer from each said seller in said set of sellers until said particular  
10 consumer accepts one of said offers or a first predetermined time limit expires,  
11 each said offer comprising an offer price specifying a price at which an  
12 associated seller ~~sell~~ will sell said specific product; ~~and~~  
13 immediately consummating a transaction between said particular consumer and a  
14 particular seller if said particular consumer accepts an offer from said  
15 particular seller; and  
16 consummating a transaction after said predetermined time limit expires if at least  
17 only one of said offers contains an offer price less than or equal to said reserve  
18 price.

1                   21. **(Currently amended)**   The computer implemented method as  
2   claimed in claim 20, said computer implemented method further comprising:  
3           displaying a set of offer prices from said sellers to said particular consumer after  
4           said first predetermined time limit has expired if no offer price is at or below  
5           said reserve acceptable price;  
6           allowing said particular consumer to select one ~~on~~ of said offers.

az 1                   22. **(Cancelled)**           The method as claimed in claim 20, said method  
2   further comprising:  
3           immediately consummating a transaction between said particular consumer and a  
4           particular seller if said particular consumer accepts an offer from said  
5           particular seller.

1                   23. **(Currently amended)**   The computer implemented method as  
2   claimed in claim 20 wherein listing a set of available products comprising operating a  
3   World Wide Web site with a catalog of products.

1                   24. **(Currently amended)**   The computer implemented method as  
2   claimed in claim 23 wherein said catalog of products is searchable.

1                    25. (Currently amended)    The computer implemented method as  
2    claimed in claim 23 wherein said World Wide Web site comprises a hierarchical directory  
3    of products.

1                    26. (Currently amended)    The computer implemented method as  
2    claimed in claim 20 wherein accepting a request for a specific product from a particular  
3    consumer comprises receiving an HMTL form.


1                    27. (Currently amended)    The computer implemented method as  
2    claimed in claim 20 wherein distributing said request for said specific product to a set of  
3    sellers comprises creating a web page that specifies said request for said specific product  
4    and said reserve price.

1                    28. (Currently amended)    The computer implemented method as  
2    claimed in claim 20 wherein distributing said request for said specific product to a set of  
3    sellers comprises sending an email to at least one seller that specifies said request for said  
4    specific product and said reserve price.



1                   29. (**Currently amended**)   The computer implemented method as  
2 claimed in claim 20 wherein accepting an offer price from a seller comprises receiving an  
3 email that specifies an offer price for said specific product.

1                   30. (**Currently amended**)   The computer implemented method as  
2 claimed in claim 20 wherein accepting an offer price from a seller comprises receiving an  
3 HTML form page that specifies an offer price for said specific product.

 1                   31. (**Currently amended**)   The computer implemented method as  
2 claimed in claim 20, said computer implemented method further comprising:  
3 immediately consummating a transaction after said first predetermined time  
4 period has expired and only one offer has been received and said only one  
5 offer contains an offer price below said reserve price.

1                   32. (**Currently amended**)   The computer implemented method as  
2 claimed in claim 20, said computer implemented method further comprising:  
3 receiving at least one offer with an offer price less than the reserve price and at  
4 least one other offer from sellers and therefore performing the substeps of  
5 displaying a set of offer prices from said sellers to said particular  
6 consumer after said first predetermined time limit has expired if no  
7 offer price is at or below said reserve acceptable price;

8 allowing, for a second predetermined time limit, said particular consumer  
9 to select one of said offers;  
1 0 consummating a transaction between said particular consumer and a  
1 1 selected if said particular consumer selects one of said offers during  
1 2 said second predetermined time limit; and  
1 3 consummating a transaction between said particular consumer and a seller  
1 4 that offered a lowest offer price if said particular consumer does not  
1 5 select one of said offers during second predetermined time limit.

1 33. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 20, said  
2 method further comprising:  
3 accepting a transaction fee ~~feed~~ after consummating said a transaction.

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